

RESPONSE

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, claims 5, 6, 9, 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, claims 1-6, 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cormack (US 2002/0057860 A1), and claims 7-13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-15, canceled claims 4 and 7, and added new claims 16-34. Reconsideration and re-examination of pending claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-34 is respectfully requested.

Specification

Applicant has added the serial number and filing date of the US Non-Provisional Application to which Applicant claims priority on page 1, lines 5-8 and on page 8, lines 1-3. Applicant further states that the additional text does not constitute new matter and complies with receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

Claim Rejections based on 35 USC 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections, and claims 5, 6, 9, 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to provide structural relationships 1-15. Applicant contends that the amended claim 1 complies with both aspects of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph pointed out by the Examiner, and hence in a condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Examiner has rejected claims 7-13, but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to add the limitation of claim 7 and to overcome the section 112 rejections. Applicant contends that claim 1 and the remaining dependent claims are thus allowable.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-34 are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that pending claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 8-34 be allowed.

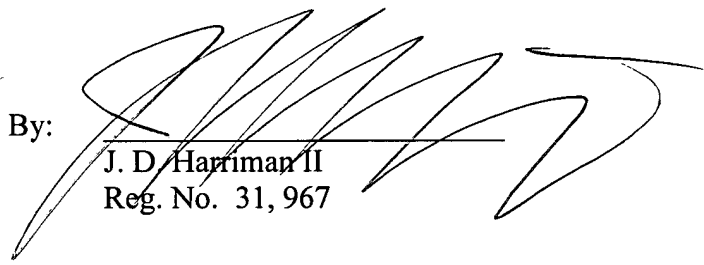
Respectfully submitted,

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